overhaul the whole department with a view to render the movement more successful and better based on practical notions. The Devadhar Report, which is, indeed, valuable in several respects, will serve as a broad guidance in this attempt. But it is possible that some of the recommendations in the report are unsuited to the conditions obtaining in our State. It is therefore, proposed to appoint a committee of persons who have experience and knowledge of the working of co-operative societies in this State to report on the possibilities of improving the movement. This will be done without much delay.

I may point out, for the information of the House, that the Government Trade Schools at Ernakulam and Trichur, which have hitherto been kept away from the purview of the Minister, have been transferred to my port-folio. It is, in a way, a necessary reform, in that it gives the Minister the control over all the institutions relating to the cottage industries in the State. A modest beginning has been made in the direction of improving cottage industries by allotting, in the budget for 1118, a sum of Rs. 5,000 for hand-spinning. Both from a national standpoint and from an economic standpoint under the present War conditions, it is my hope that this industry will enure to the advantage of an appreciable class of people in the State. The present proposal is to entrust the working of the scheme to the All-India Spinners' Association, a body which is well-known for its organising ability in connection with the spinning industry. If this experiment proves successful, the Government will consider the possibility of enhancing the allotments for similar ventures in future.

The Coir Depot in Cochin is another important industrial venture. As the House is aware, it was a losing concern. The reasons for this loss have been examined and some retrenchment in establishment charges has already been effected. A Managing Body of non-officials to supervise the working of this depot will also be appointed in the immediate future. This depot is intended mainly to be a Central Marketing Depot for the several industrial societies engaged in the production of coir. A proposal to open sub-depots in the several coir-producing centres is also under the consideration of the Government.

A modest experiment in paper manufacture has also been ordered to be tried, and a sum of Rs. 1,000 has been sanctioned to be advanced for the purchase of the necessary machinery for the purpose. This will be extended still further, if it proves to be successful.

I have so far attempted to place before the House some broad aspects relating to the administration of the Transferred Departments. Standing before you by virtue of a democratic principle, I owe my strength to the confidence which this House reposes in me and the co-operation it would extend to me in my endeavours. I am a believer in the value of healthy criticisms, and I can assure the Hon'ble Members that every such criticism will be regarded as a source of guidance by me.

We are passing through the most critical days in the history of the world. Not a single moment passes without innocent lives being lost: countries devastated and freedom of nations threatened. The most cherished of human ideals and culture are at stake. With the rapid march of events, what was hitherto a matter of news to us from abroad is fast becoming a reality in India, and the time is come for every responsible citizen of this country to preserve the honour and safety of this nation against a foreign aggression. I am glad to state that the National War Front Movement, recently launched in Cochin, as in other parts of India, to prepare the country for this sacred task, is receiving a warm and enthusiastic welcome from all sections of the public, irrespective of their caste, creed and politics. I count upon the valuable co-operation of every Hon'ble Member of this House to make this movement an unqualified success.

Announcement of Bill assented to by His Highness the Maharaja

Secretary to the Council: Under Standing Order 5 (2) I have to announce to the Council that His Highness the Maharaja has been pleased to give His Highness' gracious assent to the Cochin Port Roads' Control Bill passed by this Council.

Placing of statement of expenditure certified by the Government

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts)*: Sir, Under Rule 57 of the Legislative Council Rules, I beg to place the following statement of expenditure certified by the Government as essential under section 28 (*i*) (*b*) of the Government of Cochin Act.

S. No.	Head of Account	Amount Rs.	Remarks
1	37. Income-tax—Pay—Establishments—Temporary Establishment	676	Certified by the Diwan as essential for the efficient working of the Income-tax Department

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